

C. Characteristics of Undergraduate Students

Fall 2008 Freshmen

A total of 12,154 individuals applied for admission as first-time freshmen to Montclair State University in fall 2008, up 79% from fall 1999. The University admitted 52% of these applicants, and 2,271 of those who were admitted to the University enrolled as freshmen for a yield of 36%. The fall 2008 admissions yield was approximately nine percentage points lower than in fall 1999.

Fall 2008 freshmen entered MSU as either regular admits, special admits, or students admitted through the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program. By admitting students using different admissions categories, the University fulfilled the hopes and aspirations of more of its applicants. Of Montclair State University's 2,256 full-time, first-time freshmen, 86% were Regular Admits, 7% were admitted through the EOF program, and 7% were Special Admits (see Table II.C.1).

MSU's fall 2008 full-time, first-time freshmen had an average combined (Math and Critical Reading) SAT score of 991. Regularly admitted full-time entrants had a mean SAT score of 1,012, while EOF entrants and special admits had mean combined SAT's of 836 and 901, respectively. For all full-time freshmen, the average math SAT score (503) exceeded the average critical reading (488) and writing (494) scores (see Table II.C.1).

**TABLE II.C.1: Mean Math and Verbal SAT for First-Time Freshmen,
by Admission Status and Overall, Fall 2008**

	Full-Time				Part-Time			
Type	Number	Math	Read	Write	Number	Math	Read	Write
Regular	1,933	513	499	504	8	517	491	497
EOF	160	430	406	420				
Special	163	459	442	454	7	455	540	
All	2,256	503	488	494	15	503	502	497
Missing	-	24	24	40	-	6	6	8

In fall 2008, Montclair State University used the College Board's suite of Accuplacer tests to assess college readiness in elementary algebra. College readiness in writing was initially assessed using the SAT essay and writing scores, in combination, followed by a faculty review of early writing samples.

Incoming freshmen whose SAT-Math scores were below 550, or who failed to attain at least a B-score in Algebra II in high school, were required to take the Accuplacer elementary algebra portion of Accuplacer. Everyone's SAT-W and SAT-essay scores were examined for possible placement into developmental writing; followed by a faculty review of writing samples.

Less than 6% of fall 2008 undergraduates were enrolled in one or more remedial courses. Most of those enrolled in remediation were first-time freshmen.

Table II.C.2: Enrollment in Remedial Courses, Fall 2008

Total Fall 2008 Undergraduate Enrollment	Number of Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Courses	Percent of Total
13,725	792	5.8%
Total Number of Full-time, First-time Students	Number of FTFT Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Courses	Percent of FTFT Students Enrolled in One or More Remedial Course
2,257	585	25.9%
Remedial Subject Area	Number of FTFT Students Enrolled in	Percent of FTFT Students Enrolled in
Reading	0	0.0%
Writing	223	9.9%
Math Computation	0	0.0%
Elementary Algebra	432	19.1%

A survey administered to fall 2008 first-time freshmen revealed that nearly 88% considered MSU their first or second choice among colleges. The survey also revealed that the top three reasons freshmen chose MSU were: a) its good academic reputation (61%), b) the success of its graduates in finding good jobs (52%), and c) its affordability (51%).

The profile of the first-time freshman class reflects the continuing commitment of the University to an ethnically and racially diverse student body. Excluding unknowns, 9% of full-time, first-time freshmen identified themselves as African American, 7% as Asian, and 23% as Latino/a. Over 1% of freshmen were international students, and nearly 61% of entering freshmen were female.

Fall 2008 Undergraduates

In fall 2008, a total of 17,475 students attended Montclair State University. Of this total, 13,725 (or 78.5% of all enrollees) were registered as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates attending the University rose 16% between fall 2004 and fall 2008. Nearly 85% of fall 2008 undergraduates attended the University full-time, up four percentage points from fall 2004. MSU's undergraduates were racially/ethnically diverse. Excluding unknowns, nearly 21% of undergraduates identified themselves as Latino/a, 10% as African American, 6% as Asian, 57% White, and 6% non-resident aliens (see Table II.C.3.a).

TABLE II.C.3.a: Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Fall 2008

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Native Amer.	26	0.2%	10	0.5%	36	0.3%
African Amer.	1,018	8.8%	214	10.1%	1,232	9.0%
Asian	724	6.2%	108	5.1%	832	6.1%
Latino/a	2,201	19.0%	446	21.0%	2,647	19.3%
White	6,249	53.9%	1,087	51.2%	7,336	53.4%
Non-Res. Alien	707	6.1%	42	2.0%	749	5.5%
Missing	679	5.9%	214	10.1%	893	6.5%
Total	11,604	100.0%	2,121	100.0%	13,725	100.0%

In fall 2008, 62% of all undergraduates were female, and the average age of the undergraduate population was 22.4 years (see Tables II.C.3.b and II.C.3.c).

TABLE II.C.3.b: Undergraduate Enrollment by Sex, Fall 2008

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Female	7,114	61.3%	1,341	63.2%	8,455	61.6%
Male	4,490	38.7%	780	36.8%	5,270	38.4%
Total	11,604	100.0%	2,121	100.0%	13,725	100.0%

TABLE II.C.3.c: Undergraduate Enrollment by Age, Fall 2008

	Full-time		Part-time		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Less than 18	21	0.2%	20	0.9%	41	0.3%
18-19	3,722	32.1%	43	2.0%	3,765	27.4%
20-21	4,456	38.4%	157	7.4%	4,613	33.6%
22-24	2,425	20.9%	685	32.3%	3,110	22.7%
25-29	626	5.4%	497	23.4%	1,123	8.2%
30-34	172	1.5%	207	9.8%	379	2.8%
35-39	79	0.7%	148	7.0%	227	1.7%
40-49	66	0.6%	253	11.9%	319	2.3%
50-64	36	0.3%	97	4.6%	133	1.0%
More than 64	0	0.0%	11	0.5%	11	0.1%
Unknown	1	0.0%	3	0.1%	4	0.0%
Total	11,604	100.0%	2,121	100.0%	13,725	100.0%

During FY2008, MSU's undergraduates received financial aid from Federal, State, University, and private sources. Aid took multiple forms, from grants and scholarships, through loans and waivers. For those who needed financial assistance, the MSU Alumni Association and the MSU Foundation sponsored a number of scholarships, and special MSU program awards were substantial, amounting to nearly \$4 million during FY08. During the same fiscal year, Federal grants, guaranteed loans, and work-study programs amounted to over \$55 million.

During FY08, MSU distributed over \$20 million in state-funded financial aid, including both scholarships and NJCLASS loans (see Table II.C.4). A total of 8,107 awards were made to MSU students, including 617 Bloustein Scholar Awards and 272 Urban Scholar Awards.

Table II.C.4: Financial Aid from State-Funded Programs, FY2008

	Recipients	Awards	\$ Dollars	\$/Recipient	\$/Award
<u>STATE PROGRAMS</u>					
TAG	2,891	5,280	\$11,566,655	\$4,001	\$2,191
EOF	651	1,235	\$770,400	\$1,183	\$624
Bloustein Scholars	315	617	\$286,673	\$910	\$465
Urban Scholars	144	272	\$126,480	\$878	\$465
NJCLASS Loans		703	\$6,956,988		\$9,896
NJ Stars II (2007)	54		\$198,528	\$3,676	
OSRP	77		\$195,237	\$2,536	
<u>FEDERAL PROGRAMS</u>					
Pell Grants	3,454		\$10,023,000	\$2,902	
College Work Study	402		\$458,000	\$1,139	
Perkins Loans	354		\$676,000	\$1,910	
SEOG	678		\$741,000	\$1,093	
Stafford Loans (Subsidized)	6,059		\$23,400,000	\$3,862	
Stafford Loans (Unsubsidized)	3,538		\$13,519,000	\$3,821	
PLUS Loans	697		\$6,319,000	\$9,066	
<u>INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS</u>					
Grants/Scholarships	1,089		\$3,824,000	\$3,511	
Loans	0		\$0	\$0	

Of MSU's 2,257 full-time, first-time students who entered in fall 2008, over 97% were New Jersey residents (see Table II.C.5). Most were from Bergen (19%), Essex (14%), and Passaic (13%) counties.

Table II.C.5: Full-Time, First-Time Student Enrollment by State of Residence, Fall 2008

State Residents	Non-State Residents	Total Students	% State Residents
2,197	60	2,257	97.3%

Fall 2008 Graduate Students

Of the 17,475 students who attended Montclair State University in fall 2008, 3,750 (21%) were graduate students. Graduate student enrollment declined 2% between fall 2004 and fall 2008.

Most graduate students (77%) attended MSU part-time, taking fewer than nine credits per semester. Seventy-two percent of fall 2008 graduate students were female, and the average age of the graduate student population was 32 years. Excluding unknowns, 9% of graduate students identified themselves as African American, 4% as Asian, 6% as Latino/a, 76% as White, and 4% as non-resident aliens. Nearly 94% of MSU's graduate students are New Jersey residents.